

The Grumpy Commodore

Newsletter From Oban Sailing Club



March - The Month of Expectations

"March" is named for the Roman god of war, Mars.

This was the time of year to resume military campaigns that had been interrupted by winter.

In the early Roman calendar, March (or Martius) was the first month of the calendar year. As March brought the first day of spring with the vernal equinox, it was the start of new beginnings.

Whilst the Sailing Club might not be going to war, we are fully embracing a return to campaigns interrupted by winter and there is a real feeling of expectation and excitement as we ready ourselves for the new season.

The committee, Hannah and myself are very much looking forward to welcoming you all back for a season of socialising, activity, racing, fun and club development.

Derek Grier
OSC Commodore



This issue:

The Month of Expectations

Page 01

What's been happening?

Page 02

Coming Soon

Page 03

Volunteer Afternoon

Page 04

Membership

Page 05

Getting Social

Page 06

Thank you and how to get involved

Page 07



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Our amazing volunteers have worked exceptionally hard to make sure that the boats are "Ship Shape and Bristol Fashion" for the coming season. The sun eventually came out which made the anti fouling task slightly more pleasant.



Finlo has almost completed the dinghy park lease... just the final legal bit and then it is going to be an exciting time for developments in the club. More updates to follow.



Andy and Jim have been doing survey work on the potential dinghy park hard standing at the rear.

The committee held its February meeting and members were tasked with activities to get ready for the season.

Neil Matheson has kindly supplied the club with Giant Jenga and a carpet to stop the blocks from damaging the club house floor! It has been well used at the Friday night socials.

The leader board is currently a closely fought tie between Derek and Gerard!

The youngest member?? of OSC attended her first RYA Affiliated Clubs Conference last weekend and made sure she was front and centre for Hannah's vote of thanks in her role as Vice Chair for RYA Scotland.

The conference was a great opportunity for clubs to come together, share ideas and be inspired.

Derek will be bringing forward a number of discussion points to the next committee meeting.





COMING SOON

SAILING PROGRAMME

Thanks to Andrew and Steven who have been finalising the Sailing Programme for 2023. Watch this space for updates.

CPD OPPORTUNITIES

Continual Professional Development (CPD) sessions are going to be delivered in conjunction with RYA Scotland for Dinghy, Keel and Power Boat instructors 25th & 26th March 2023

These sessions have also been opened up to assistant instructors and others who are interested in working towards their instructor qualifications

You can book these events [here](#)

Alternatively you can contact OSC directly

**“Who dares
to teach
must never
cease to
learn.”**

—

**John Cotton
Dana**

TRAINING PROGRAMME

Thanks to Julia and Steven the training timetable for the coming season, is live - with a wide range of courses running throughout the year, including:

- RYA First Aid
- VHF SRC
- Safety Boat
- Various RYA Dinghy Courses
- Power boat
- Bar training
- Safeguarding

You can find out about upcoming courses [here](#)



Volunteer Afternoon

SATURDAY 11TH MARCH 2023
13:00 -16:00

IT IS NOT ALL ABOUT SAILING!

We need your skills!

There are loads of volunteering opportunities at the club, you could help supervise events and activities, support us with social media and marketing, run the bar or play an instrument at one of our social nights, keep the club looking smart with general repairs and maintenance or join our committee.

It's a fun way to share your knowledge and skills, or learn something new

Come and find out more

- Want to get involved? Volunteer profiles and sign up
- Who's who? Meet the committee and members
- Fancy a sail? Drascombe boat trips (weather permitting)
- Feeling a bit rusty?
 - Safety boat refresher and sign up
 - Setting up a dinghy
 - Bar Training (14:00-16:00) - refresher and first time (over 18s only)
- Feeling brave? How about an open water swim
- Kit Swap Shop (bring/buy/swap/ sell your old kit)

**Bar open after (4pm onwards) nibbles will be provided,
family friendly and everyone welcome**

Page 04



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GETTING SOCIAL!

Our Friday Night Social sessions have been well received. There has been a good mix of people attending and a great opportunity to chat, have a drink and play some games.

We were delighted to host our first "Sound Waves" event at the end of February and a number of our members and young members turned up with their instruments and played the evening away.

The plan is to make this a regular monthly event, so don't worry if you missed out.

The bar is open every Friday night from 19:00 until 23:00

There is now a stock of non-alcoholic beers and ciders in addition to all your usual favourites. If we don't have your preferences, just let us know and we will get some in, it's your bar!

We are also looking at offering bar snacks / simple "pub grub" on some of the evenings.



There is a but!

We really do need some people who are happy to do an occasional bar shift, cover for special events etc.

We are running a bar training session on Saturday 11th March (14:00-16:00) as part of the volunteer afternoon.

New to the bar or in need of a refresher? Please come along to cover the mandatory legal training needed to work the bar. No previous experience necessary (over 18s only)



OSC Crew for 2023



Office Bearers

Commodore: Derek Grier

Vice Commodore: Finlo Cottier

Hon. Secretary/Membership: Andy McPherson

Treasurer: Gerard Hoen

Committee Members

Andrew Chapman

Chris Dowd

Steven Forteith

Eric Chapman

Julia Pollard

RYA Centre Principal: Andy McPherson

UHI Link: Janne Bruhns

Junior Rep/Bar Convenor: Ruby Howard

Non Committee members

Welfare: Irena Chapman

Oban High School Liaison: Iain Fulton/Murray Hamilton

Social Convenor: Hannah Grier

Round Mull Race Committee

Billy Forteith

Steven Forteith

Jim Tolmie

Handicaps Committee

Billy Forteith

Colin Crawford

Andrew Chapman

March

What's
Happening?



March 8

International Women's Day

March 11

OSC Volunteer Afternoon

March 15

Beware the Ides of March!

March 17

St. Patrick's Day

March 20

Vernal or spring equinox
marking the beginning of spring

March 22

Marks the start of Ramadan

March 25

RYA CPD - Dinghy Instruction

March 26

"spring forward"
set the clocks one hour ahead

March 26

RYA CPD - Power Instruction

March 29-31

According to lore, the last three
days of March have a reputation
for being stormy.



THANK YOU!

I would personally like to say a massive thank you to everyone who helps make our club a success, including all those who quietly run things in the background for example, safety boats, training, club development, repairing the building/boats, washing up and keeping the clubhouse in good repair, all our volunteers and finally to our dedicated Committee members.

Oban Sailing Club could not function without you.

Each one of you plays an important role in our club and its future and I hope you continue to support the club in 2023.

Thank you.

Derek Grier

GET INVOLVED

Volunteers make OSC work, without them it would not be possible to run the many events and activities which take place every year.

The club are always on the look out for people to volunteer for different things including:

Monday Mayhem
Bar Staff
Social Activities
Race Officials
Safety Boat
Shore Support
Social Media and Marketing
And many more

Whether you are available for one afternoon or more regularly there is an opportunity for you, please get in touch!

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

~

Aesop

Volunteer Sign Up Form



Oban Sailing Club

www.obansailingclub.org



Oban.Sailing.Club

mail@obansailingclub.org



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